

REMARKS

Claims 1-46, 48, and 50-52 are pending in the present Application. No claims have been amended, canceled or added, leaving claims 1-46, 48, and 50-52 for consideration upon entry of the present Response. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks and the accompanying 37 CFR § 1.132 Declaration filed herewith.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 46, 48, 51 and 52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,373,065 to Prest, Jr. ("Prest"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

To anticipate a claim, a reference must disclose each and every element of the claim. *Lewmar Marine v. Variant Inc.*, 3 U.S.P.Q.2d 1766 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

Prest generally discloses optical recording member for optically recording and retrieving of information having an optically isotropic layer made of an optically isotropic polymeric material blend. The blend includes the combination of a polyphenylene ether and a polystyrene.

The Applicants respectfully contend that Prest fails to anticipate claims 46, 48, 51 and 52 as the reference fails to teach an article made from polymeric material prepared by the claimed methods wherein the resulting article is substantially free of visible particulate impurities. The Applicants provide herewith a 37 CFR § 1.132 Declaration provided by co-inventor Hua Guo. As shown by the Declaration, the material prepared according to Example 1 of the present Application, once injection molded into an article, provides an article having substantially reduced numbers of particulate impurities. 37 CFR § 1.132 Declaration, Table, page 3. A comparative article prepared according to the teachings of Prest using commercially available material results in an article having over eight times more visible particulates. 37 CFR § 1.132 Declaration, Table, page 3. Accordingly, it has been shown that the articles of Prest do not anticipate claims 46, 48, 51 and 52 as it does not teach the required limitation of an article substantially free of visible particulate impurities. Reconsideration and

removal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

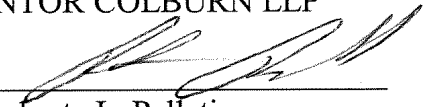
It is believed that the foregoing remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Response or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-1131 maintained by Assignee.

Respectfully submitted,

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